FROM THE DIRECTOR

To our supporters,

What an incredible year! All year long, we have found ourselves completely overwhelmed by the amazing blessings and support that we have experienced. Huge developments are underway here which is just so exciting to see!

Our children have participated in classes at school, learning, reading, workshops, college prep, and so much more. And of course there has been plenty of play too! Jungle trips, kickball tournaments, cricket, football, board games, movie nights, swimming, water fights... The list of activities is not easily exhausted. One of the most notable events of the year was the release of the National Geographic Photo Camp photo book which was filled from front to back with stories and photographs created by our children.

Thanks to the support of our friends at the Samartha Saxena Foundation and CenturyLink India, we saw the opening of our school’s new library and computer center - the Samartha Saxena Memorial Learning Resource Center. This incredible building and the resources contained within it will have an impact on thousands of students lives in the coming years.

The eyes of our children have been pointed upwards throughout the year as new roofs have been installed on several buildings and a massive solar power and hot water system installed to take two of our hostels off-grid!

By far the most incredible happening this year is the end of some major court battles, the reconciliation between the heads of two long feuding parties and the promise of peace. Of course we will share more on that later in this report.

This year has also seen us looking far further into the future than we ever have before. Through our new Mission University project our children have the opportunity to study in the very best colleges that India has to offer. I am so excited to see where this journey will take them.

The GSAM is a non-profit that is registered under the following Acts/Government Offices:

- Societies Registration Act
  14/1952-1953
- Income Tax Act
  Section 12A, 80G, PAN: AAATG3113G
- Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA)
  Registration Number: 136620006
- Uttarakhand Education Department
  Registration Number: 779-53/2015-2018

Sincerely,

Warwick G. Shipway
Director

2018-19 ANNUAL REPORT

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ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

The Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission (GSAM) is an independent, non-governmental, social development organization that has been providing support to those in need since 1952. ‘The Mission’ works in an array of areas, support to lepers, vocational training, community training and development, education and disaster relief but its primary focus is the care and protection of children.

The Mission works hard to provide a loving home and family for every child in its care working hard to promote family relationships and impart a spirit of responsibility in every member of the organization.

REGISTRATION DETAILS:

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  14/1952-1953
- Income Tax Act
  Section 12A, 80G, PAN: AAATG3113G
- Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA)
  Registration Number: 136620006
- Uttarakhand Education Department
  Registration Number: 779-53/2015-2018

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The following people make up the elected Board of Directors of The Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission as of 31st March 2019:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Area of Competency</th>
<th>Meetings Attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Warwick Shipway</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Philanthropist/Retired Farmer</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>4 / 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eugene George</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Agriculturalist</td>
<td>Non-Profit Sector</td>
<td>4 / 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clifton Shipway</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Deputy Director</td>
<td>Photographer</td>
<td>Non-Profit Administration</td>
<td>4 / 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priscilla Shipway</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Childcare Worker</td>
<td>Childcare</td>
<td>4 / 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simeon Karada</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>3 / 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josie Singh</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Agriculturalist</td>
<td>Animal Husbandry</td>
<td>4 / 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paula Karada</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>Childcare</td>
<td>2 / 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RECEIPTS

The 2018-19 Financial Year was the most impactful year we have ever had. We raised more money, accomplished bigger goals and changed more lives than ever before. Hundreds of individual donors from around the world came together to help us raise over 1.68 crore rupees in donations (approximately USD $235,000). Together with our farm, school and minor investment intake, this gave us our highest receipts ever in a single year.

We received incredible support again this year from our project partners the Samartha Saxena Foundation, S. Group, Charities Aid Foundation, Health & Development Aid Abroad, Global Giving Foundation, BILD International and Door of Hope.

We are so grateful to everyone who has contributed this year. It is only through your continued support and trust in our organization that we are able to keep changing lives of the incredible people who live here in this place. We simply could not have done this without you.

Our statutory auditors are AKRSS and Associates, Chartered Accountants, Firm Reg. No 016798C of B4, Alisha Apartment, MMM Marg, Lucknow, 226001.

EXPENSES

Our accounts department spends a lot of time and energy to ensure that we are able to provide an accurate record of our expenditure. We work unbelievably hard to make sure that every dollar donated is stretched and utilized in the very best way. While on paper our farm operates at a “loss” we are also providing wheat, rice, milk, eggs, fish and fruit for our entire family. We proudly publish all of our Audited Financial Reports on our website: www.IndianOrphanage.com/report

Below is a summary of expenses of our organization for the year starting April 1st, 2018 and ending on March 31st, 2019.

- **Total Received**: ₹2.56cr (USD $ 359,000* APPROX)
- **Total Expenditure**: ₹2.66cr (USD $ 371,000* APPROX)

**Indirect Orphanage Expenditure**
- Repair & Maint. of Buildings & Furniture: ₹19,07,547
- Salary & Wages: ₹13,14,156
- Depreciation: ₹12,23,163
- Diesel & Fuel: ₹12,18,196
- Water & Electricity: ₹10,70,426
- Legal & Professional Fees: ₹6,62,000
- Staff & Workers Welfare: ₹6,38,610
- Repair & Maint. of Vehicles & Generators: ₹4,93,581
- Repair & Maint. of School Projects: ₹4,58,405
- Repair & Maint. of Computers: ₹2,92,566
- Festivals & Ceremonies: ₹2,85,797
- Travel & Conveyance: ₹2,70,171
- Printing & Stationary: ₹2,44,983
- Vehicle Insurance: ₹2,43,901
- Miscellaneous Expenses: ₹2,17,035
- Telephone & Internet: ₹1,78,150
- Transportation Expenses: ₹1,31,200
- Contribution & Disaster Relief: ₹1,08,204
- FCRA Penalty: ₹51,602
- Audit Fees: ₹40,000
- Office & Administration: ₹27,058
- Bank Fees & Charges: ₹16,915
- Newspapers & Periodicals: ₹7,086
- Advertising: ₹4,000
- Interest Paid on TDS: ₹2,938
- Postage & Couriers: ₹1,608
- Total Expenditure: ₹1,11,09,298
- Addition To Assets
  - Building School (Library): ₹13,12,083
  - Building (Staff Accommodation): ₹20,22,226
  - Orchard Tube Well: ₹79,629
  - Furniture & Fixtures: ₹4,43,966
  - Electrical Fittings: ₹30,103
  - General Equipments & Machines: ₹2,89,457
  - Ashok Leyland School Bus: ₹15,25,000
  - Library Resources: ₹1,431
  - Computers and Tech.: ₹4,07,079
  - Total Expenditure: ₹61,10,974

**Direct Orphanage Expenditure**
- Food & Consumables: ₹11,66,160
- Children’s Clothing & Wearnings: ₹3,11,936
- Medical & Health Care: ₹3,33,368
- Children’s Education & Tuitions: ₹4,11,597
- Total Expenditure: ₹22,23,061

**Agricultural Expenses**
- Total Expenditure: ₹22,98,371

**Expenditure of School Project**
- Salary & Wages: ₹43,09,704
- School General Expenses: ₹2,42,367
- Software Subscription: ₹84,958
- Books & Stationary: ₹2,60,835
- Total Expenditure: ₹48,97,864

**Addition To Assets**
- Building School (Library): ₹13,12,083
- Building (Staff Accommodation): ₹20,22,226
- Orchard Tube Well: ₹79,629
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*For the purpose of this document 1 USD = INR 71.79
THE MISSION

Our children are the very heart of our mission. Though many come from destitute or desperate situations, some as far away as Orissa, Sikkim or Assam, they are all cared for as members of our large family and treated as the beautiful individuals that they are. As with all children worldwide, each boy and girl comes to us with their own unique dreams, passions and talents. Our goal is to develop the whole person, not simply feed and clothe a needy child.

On some basic levels, our kids are given three nutritious meals each day as well as morning and afternoon tea—with the occasional snacks such as ice cream, chips and "gol guppa" (a kid favorite) added just for fun. Meals are eaten as a family in our dining room where children, staff and volunteers come together to give thanks.

On the mission, our orphan children live in five separate hostels, each with a staff family member that strives to make each hostel feel as much like a home as possible. As part of this effort, older children are given their own rooms, with their own beds, furniture, possessions and the like.

VICTORY!!!
November 3rd, 2018 was a huge day for all of us as four baseless court cases against us were dismissed all at once. Without belaboring the details, a local troublemaker was claiming to be the Secretary of the Mission board and was attempting to kick our Board of Directors off the property. Additionally, he was suing to block the construction of our new staff housing, which has been on hold for nearly a year and a half. A huge dinner party was thrown as friends from near and far came to celebrate with us.

AN EVEN BIGGER VICTORY!!!
As many of you know we have been involved in litigation over the last fourteen years. A split in the Board of Directors that was the inducement for Rick, Clifton and Maxine (Rick’s wife who passed away in 2010) to come from Australia. For fourteen long years we have battled countless cases, suits and applications against us. In the midst of this we have seen a constant stream of victories by God’s grace. Well, the good news is that this year the head of the ‘other’ Board withdrew his objections and has chosen to support us and become one with our big, ever-growing family. We give praises to God for his mercy and grace, and look forward to many more years of peace here on the mission. We also want to make special mention to our amazing advocate Mr AK Singla who has fought tirelessly for so many years for us. When the case was closed by the courts our legal team came back to the mission to be greeted with dancing, singing, and fireworks. The celebrations went well into the night as a DJ, lights, and dance party let the whole world know that peace once again is returning to mission.

SAD FAREWELLS
We were filled with mixed emotions when six of our senior girls headed off to Nagpur to pursue further education. While leaving is a necessary step, they will all be missed. It was especially hard to see April go as she had been the Small Girls’ Hostel in-charge for many years and will be difficult to replace. Still, it has been a joy to have all of these amazing girls with us and to watch them grow into strong, independent young women. As their family, we’ll always be here with open arms, cheering them all on.

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY
Meet Ruhani, she’s 6 years old with an amazing adventurous spirit. Abandoned by her father at birth Ruhani’s mother had a really hard time looking after her. With nowhere else to turn her mother admitted her into our hostel and she quickly became a loved member of our big family. It’s a policy of ours to do everything possible to keep families together but that is often easier said than done. Sometimes little ones are safer off in our school hostel where they can receive the care they deserve.

November 2018

May 2018

July 2018
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At least once each year our entire staff body, Board of Directors and key supporters from our local and international community get together to discuss the progress and direction of our organization. This year almost 40 people were in attendance for the meeting which we held in our brand new library building. It was a great chance for so many people who love and support this mission to reflect on our previous year’s achievements and plan for the next stages of our work. We sure have an amazing team here!

March 2019

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Our Employee of the Year award this year was given to Esther Kashyap. Esther helps in a variety of areas here, though her main role is the care of our youngest Nursery Hostel children. Over the last year Esther’s role has changed significantly, and she has taken on many new duties and responsibilities. We are so grateful for her willingness to adapt to new challenges and her loving interactions with the precious children in our care. She was awarded a special plaque and check during our Annual General Meeting.

March 2019

STAFF ACCOMMODATION

With the end of our court cases we were able to jump back in, with full force, into the construction of our Staff Accommodation. This building has been financed through the incredible efforts of Project Banbasa, run by S. Group and many amazing members of the Launceston community in Tasmania, Australia.

By the end of the 2018-19 Financial Year the roof of the building had been poured and brickwork on the ground floor had begun.

December - March 2019

BBQ POOL PARTY

Our good friend Susan Breen from the USA helped us to throw a BBQ Pool Party for all of our girls that they will never forget. Yummy homemade kebabs, BBQ meat, salads and burgers by the pool helped create fun-filled memories that the girls will never forget.

Everyone had an amazing time as they danced the night away under the stars, there was so much food left over that they were able to eat it again for breakfast and for lunch the next day!

June 2018

WONDER DOWN UNDER

Our incredible friends at S. Group in Tasmania also ran a big fundraiser for us as a part of their Annual S. Christmas Party. Over the long night they managed to raise more than $3500 for us. They celebrated with a huge color-fest, the likes of which the little town of Launceston has never seen before. Businessmen and women young and old, had an amazing time throwing colored powder to celebrate and raise awareness of our work. We love you S. Group, you guys are making such a massive difference in the world!

December 2018

CHASE WONDER

Through the support of our amazing friends and family worldwide, Clifton was awarded the “Wonder Chaser Award” by S. Group. Not only did he receive the most votes, our organization was also awarded the generous $5000 prize! This prize money will go toward the construction of a fence around our school and help to keep our children and gardens safe. Again, we want to say a massive thank you to all of our friends at S. and the hundreds of people all over the world who voted to make this happen.

June 2018
Whether it is a tetanus booster, de-worming tablets, a stubbed toe or just a bandaid, our kids know that Grandpa Rick has the solution to whatever ails them.

Our medical room received a revamp this year with a new cupboard and loads of great supplies.
GLOBAL GIVING
We switched our online fundraising platform to an organization called Global Giving. Global Giving (GG) is the world’s largest nonprofit crowd-funding community. While GG does take a small administration fee for their assistance they also send new donors, match donations and offer additional grants/programs/training which more than cover their fee. In addition to this, through GG, we can now offer full tax-deductible receipting to our US and UK based donors as well as secure Paypal, bank, and credit card donations.

January 2019

JUNIOR BOYS HOSTEL UPGRADE
New furniture and a few coats of paint saw new life breathed into our Junior Boys’ Hostel. Home to our youngest 13 boys, this building was sorely in need of some attention. Old wooden beds were cracked and rickety, having seen generations of children sleeping on them. The paint was peeling from the walls, damaged by the moisture of a dozen monsoons. Clothing spewed out of door-less cupboards and shoes lay piled up on the ground. The boys can hardly recognize the place now!

December 2018

SOLAR ARRAY
Our incredible friends at TURBOCAM India set us up with a 5KW solar panel system in February. This new duplexing system is the first of its kind in all of India! Fifteen 330w panels simultaneously produce electricity and hot water for both our Junior Girls Hostel and Nursery. For any of our kids who’ve ever had to endure a freezing shower in the middle of winter, this system is a much-appreciated blessing. We were also able to completely upgrade the electricals in the Nursery.

February 2019

SENIOR BOYS HOSTEL ROOF
Whenever a new roof or major construction project is undertaken here on the mission you can be sure that in one way or another our Senior Boys are there helping out. Over the last decade their hostel roof has really deteriorated. Most rooms leaked so much they became uninhabitable over the monsoon season. Thanks to a new roof that we installed in November the boys no longer have to shift beds and furniture around at the slightest hint of bad weather. The tin also helps keep the rooms cool in summer.

November 2018

A NEW NURSERY ROOF
Our youngest children will now be kept safe and dry thanks to a new tin roof that has been installed on top of the Nursery Hostel. The workshop boys worked hard for two weeks to ensure the roof was strong and leakproof. While we have been wanting to paint and repair the Nursery for quite some time, fixing the leaks was the first step. With the new roof now on we can start looking at further improvements in the building. Of course you can look for a report of all of this in next year’s Annual Report.

October 2019

SENIOR GIRLS HOSTEL FACE LIFT
Last year our Senior Girls received a brand new bathroom and electrical installation. This year, with the help of the Samantha Saxena Foundation, we decided their bedrooms, courtyard and living room could use a bit of a fix-up. Cracks were puttied, walls were painted and the bathroom is no longer the freshest looking room in the building! Our workshop men also made up some sofa sets for the girls’ living room - giving them some added comfort and feeling of home. Thanks so much Sam!

September 2019

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September 2019
THE STORM
Storms are a regular thing in most parts of the world but this year we had a particularly bad one that uprooted more than a dozen trees, ripped sheets of iron from roofs and even flipped our poor tuktuk on its side! The next morning everyone was out in force chopping fallen logs, sweeping roofs and mopping up floors to ensure that everything was cleaned up as quickly and safely as possible. Even our littlest ones helped out, picking up fallen fruit or dragging branches, just like the big people were doing.

June 2019

FRESH FRUIT
A regular supply of fresh fruit is essential for a healthy balanced diet. Here on the mission we have close to a hundred different trees producing a variety of fruits including mangoes, lychee, pears, lemons, mulberries, grapefruit, guava, chikoo and we even have an avocado tree coming up. Our biggest fruit crop by far is the multitude of mangoes which come into season in June, however our kids start eating them as early as April (raw mango with chili powder and salt is a delicacy here).

ALL YEAR ROUND

IN QUITE A PICKLE
Our fruit crops often come in such huge volumes that we are unable to eat them all before they become overripe and spoil. Enter Priscilla and the Small Girls. Each year these young ladies create preserves, jams and pickles which allow us to enjoy our produce throughout the year. In May the girls made almost 200kg (440lbs) of mango pickle as well as huge batches of lemon pickle, mulberry jam and even dried bamboo shoots. Not only is it a great way to cut down on waste, it also adds something yummy to our diets.

ALL YEAR ROUND

COOL, CLEAN WATER
Two new water coolers and filters on our campus have helped to ensure our children, staff and volunteers have access to clean, cool drinking water at all times. One filter/cooler set was purchased with the support of the Samartha Saxena Foundation and installed in our main Dining Room. The other was installed outside the Senior Boys’ Hostel where it can be accessed by the public as well. It is important for everyone to keep their fluids up, especially during the hot summer and monsoon months.

August 2019

MEDICAL WOES
A variety of medical battles, ranging from common colds to broken bones, made trips to our nearby hospitals a regular event this year. Rick himself can take ownership of a few of those trips, with an eye surgery in August to remove a cataract followed by a fractured foot after a stumble on the building site. Rohit, one of our Junior Boys, also managed to break his arm while throwing a ball for our dog, Rocky. Thankfully, in times of need there are always plenty of people around to help restore the sick back to good health.

September 2019

CHICKEN SLAUGHTER
For several years we have been raising chickens to provide a regular supply of eggs for our children. Unfortunately one night our CCTV caught wild dogs entering our campus and killing all 40 of our chickens. It was a heartbreaking experience for all of us. Thankfully some generous friends helped us to construct a strong (dog proof) chicken coop and purchase new chickens to replenish the stocks. Soon enough the egg supply will be back up to what it used to be.

September 2019

ALL YEAR ROUND

ALL YEAR ROUND

ALL YEAR ROUND
Breakfast for 100 people is no small task. Our kitchen staff and Senior Girls ensure there is homemade bread, porridge, cream and treacle (reduced sugar cane juice) ready to give our young ones all the energy they need to start their days.
SAFETY FIRST
Across our compound we have introduced a number of new safety systems in an effort to further protect our children. Much of this was through the support of our friends at the Samartha Saxena Foundation. Speed bumps, reflectors and traffic signs were installed across our roads to help control local traffic. New policies were implemented for our computers, phones and technology and we also revised our Child Protection Policy, Visitors & Volunteers Agreement, Staff Handbook and Hostel Policies.

SECURITY SYSTEMS
The security on our campus was stepped up this year with the installation of 48 new CCTV cameras across our site and the addition of fingerprint registration for staff attendance. These new systems, along with changes to our already existing security systems and policies will help to keep our children, facility and assets safe. We are so grateful to our dear friends at the Samartha Saxena Foundation for their support in this project.

SWIMMING POOL UPGRADE
Our swimming pool received a major facelift thanks to four new changing rooms, a brand new pump shed, a shaded sitting area and a pathway to keep little feet clean on their way to and from the cool waters. Our kids love the pool, many wait all year for a chance to have a splash. We don't use any chemicals in the pool but rather pump bore water in from one end and out from the other. This water can then be used to irrigate our fields or water our mango orchard without fear of damaging crops.

TRIP TO AFRICA
For the third year in a row our Director, Warwick Shipway, traveled to Africa to help with projects in Zimbabwe and Kenya. It is an amazing chance not only for ‘Rick’ to do some important work but also for him to have the type of holiday he enjoys most: a working holiday!

During his time away ‘Rick’ helped to build a dining hall at the Houses of Hope Orphanage in Zimbabwe. He install new floor tiles and better establish a farming program at the orphanage.

STAFF DINNERS
Unity among staff is an incredibly important element in a place like this. In an effort to tighten the bonds that join us together this year we started a monthly “potluck” dinner with all of our staff and their families. The average dinner sees about 20 different dishes prepared across the campus and brought together in a fun-filled night of relationships and community. Our staff do so much on a daily basis -they are the glue which holds this place together and we appreciate them so much.

CISF SUPPORT TEAM
Our amazing friends at the local National Hydro Power Corporation (NHPC) have been a great support this year. Under the direction of CISF Inspector Rajesh Yadav, two vehicles loaded with donated goods entered our gates just a few days before Christmas. New clothes were given out to all of our children, much to their delight. We are so grateful to have the support of the not just NHPC and it’s staff but the whole of the Banbasa community, their continued love and support over the years means so much to us.

INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE
It was our incredible honor to have Inspector General of Police, Mr P.S. Rawat come and spend some time with us this year. He took a tour of our entire campus along with several other Government officials and offered advice in several key areas. Since his visit, Mr Rawat has helped us establish a new fertilizer program in our agricultural department -now, naturally occuring bacteria, grown in tanks in our workshop, will slowly replace the artificially produced nitrogen and potassium that we add to our soil each year.
CHRISTMAS
Christmas celebrations go on for much more than just one single day here on the mission. Presents, stockings, treat bags, dinners, games, picnics, bonfires, carols, bus rides and a special Christmas Day Brunch make sure of that! Ask anyone who was here and you will find out that this year’s Christmas celebrations were about as good as they could ever be. Dozens of past mission children returned home to celebrate the holidays and brought with them enough cheer to fill more than Santa’s sleigh.

December 2019

NEW YEAR’S EVE
Like millions the world over we celebrated the revolution of our planet around the sun in spectacular fashion again this year. We joined together on NYE, held a short service to share our gratitude, ate a large meal together and then the party really began. Whereas many of the kids danced under the disco ball and laser lights, others chose a quieter, less Footloose style environment to spend their final moments of 2018; a huge bonfire at the back of the kitchen was lit where all were welcome.

December 2018

THANKSGIVING
Though Thanksgiving is not an Indian holiday, we like to take the excuse to spend time with those that we love and give thanks to God for all the amazing things we have to be grateful for. And this year we sure do have plenty to be grateful for!

As is our tradition, we invited everyone from the Mission to have a special festive lunch with us. The food was great, the house was packed, and Auntie Violet was Queen of Thanksgiving!

December 2018

CAMPING TRIP
With a property on the edge of the jungle the idea of running a camping trip for our children might sound alarming to you – “What about tigers and elephants?” you might ask. Well, this year’s camping trips were in our orchard out back which meant the only thing our kids had to fear were a few rogue mangoes falling on their heads! Huge bonfires, loads of snacks, story telling, night time games and more candy than two dozen little tummies could stomach made for fun-filled memories.

December 2018 - January 2019

MANY HANDS
As the saying goes, “many hands make light work”. We can totally vouch for that thanks to the huge in stream of volunteers this year. We could fill a dozen Annual Reports with each and every dirty job that has been done by friends near and far so we won’t try to list everything here; but we do want to express just how much this support means to us. The power of people makes an incredible difference here each year. Thank you all for your love and incredible hard work! We could not do this without you.

All Year Round
When the Alu-Tikki man comes to visit, everyone gets excited. Deep-fried potato patties covered in chickpeas, spices and chutney come with a promise of happy times and even happier bellies.
ANOTHER BIRTHDAY
We all know that some things never change. Like it or not, every year we add one more candle to our birthday cake. With multiple birthdays each week, we have to put in a huge effort to make each birthday for our children unique and special. For some, this means a regular sit-down with a cake, for others it’s a costume party, an all night movie night, a themed event or a dinner party in a nearby restaurant with friends. Our sponsors almost always get involved and help to make the memories even more special!

ALL YEAR ROUND

SLITHERY VISITOR
We don’t have to travel into the jungle to see wild animals here on the mission, sometimes they come to visit us! A surprise python (that’s the worst kind by the way!) turned up in our dairy much to the ‘delight’ of the laborers. Rick, our resident reptile wrangler (say that 10 times fast!), quickly collected the serpent and handed it over to Forestry Department officials who safely returned it home to the jungle. We love being close to nature, but this was perhaps a little too close for comfort.

October 2019

BOMB SQUAD
Another big moment this year was a visit from the local bomb squad...which is not an experience you have every day. As the story goes, a local trash collector stumbled upon the 81 mm unexploded mortar of unknown origins, and contacted the local authorities. They then put plans in motion to have the explosive destroyed in the riverbed behind our property. Our staff and children were able to assist the team by serving drinks to all of the squad. The detonation blast was felt across our campus.

March 2019

SAM’S BIRTHDAY
For many years now we have had a special relationship with the Saxena family. The passing of their son Sam inspired them to a new way of living and ultimately led them to us -through the philanthropic work they have been doing through the foundation started in Sam’s name. On Sam’s birthday and at the request of his parents we held a special party for him in our Dining Room with all of our staff and children. Sam was certainly a special young man and is remembered fondly by us all.

September 2019

STRONG RIDERS TRIP
The Strong Riders, our motorcycle riding club made up of Mission boys old and current, took an epic trip up into the mountains this year. Their destination was the lake towns of Bhimtal and Naukuchiyatal. The cold weather didn’t even come close to dampening their spirits as they rode their metal horses up mountain roads in search of Tibetan dumplings, boat rides, trekking and the promise of incredible adventure. We are happy to report that not a single one of them came back disappointed.

December 2018
If you ask our Senior Girls what was their biggest event of the year, they would probably all tell you of their adventure to the Himalayan town of Naukuchiyatal. Lakeside strolls, boating, dumplings and even some goofy costume changes made for an incredible trip that no one wanted to see end. By the time the day was over the girls returned home with bellies and hearts full, their journey captured in some wonderful photos that will last a lifetime. Of course every one of them is waiting for the next trip!

January 2019

As the drivers began to unlock the doors of the car, one of the girls noticed something: a man standing by a shelf of sparkly material right by the water’s edge. “What is that?” asked Jessica. “I know what that is,” squealed Riva, “that’s a dress up shop!” “Wouldn’t it be great to dress up in those funny clothes and take some photos?” Catherine asked. Everyone agreed and in that unexpected moment some lifelong memories were crafted.
MONSOON FLOODS
Toward the end of July each year the monsoon clouds roll in bringing the promise of rain. This year a sudden and violent cloudburst saw schools across our district closed down as our fields and campus were flooded. Thankfully we are more than used to this happening. With proper drainage in place, the waters quickly receded. No major damage was sustained anywhere on our campus. Sadly, many in our local area were not as fortunate as us as several homes were severely damaged in the flood.

August 2019

GRADE 10 GRADUATES
Seven of our girls graduated from Grade 10 this year. We are so proud of the way they have conducted themselves, not just over the last year, but over their entire educational careers.

In the coming year they will be looking at Senior Secondary studies to prepare them for university; there are a number of schools we are considering. Wherever they end up, we are sure of one thing - these girls are going to make us all extremely proud!

March 2019

MISSION: UNIVERSITY
As every parent knows, offering even a single child a quality education can be a challenge. More than one child at a time can feel overwhelming! This year we kicked off a huge ongoing project that we are calling Mission University. The goal is simple: to find sponsors who can enroll all ten of our 12th class graduates in top colleges across India. It is ambitious, perhaps a little risky, but we believe these kids are worth it! They have the potential to change the world and now they will have the education to back it up!

March 2019

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC BOOK
Last year, with the support of National Geographic, twenty of our children were able to participate in a journalism and photography workshop. This year their hard work was published in a 89 page magazine highlighting their stories, photographs and journeys. What an incredible achievement for our children to have their work published under the banner of the world’s most famous magazine. Every graduate from the program received their very own copy - something to be proud of for the rest of their lives!

May 2018
CASA BLANKETS
Each year we receive amazing quilts from our friends at Churches Auxiliary for Social Action and this year was no different. More than 300 of these handmade beauties arrived on our doorstep ready for winter, and we in turn passed them out to eager quilt lovers. Every child on the mission received 2, as did our staff members, workers and many needy members of the local community. It’s always nice to be able to bless others when we are so richly blessed. Thank you CASA for your ongoing support!

November 2018

HIS AND HER OVAL OFFICES
A new toilet seems like an odd thing to make mention of in our Annual Report but believe us when we tell you - this Porcelain Throne has been sorely needed for many years now! Finally, with the support of our Gram Pradhan (village chief), we were able to install the Comfort Station near our workshop where it can serve the needs of parents visiting our school, the workshop crew, our agricultural laborers and any one else who might be needing to “see a man about a horse” or “drop off some wood in the wood shed”.

March 2019

BIG MAN PIZZA NIGHT
One of our regular visitors, Aaron ‘Turbocool’ Tuthill, introduced our boys to Big Man Pizza Night. BMPN is about more than just pizza. It is about the older generation creating an opportunity to mentor, encourage and support the younger generation. It is a chance to nurture a community of brothers and, at the same time, have a whole lot of fun. 22 of the boys got involved in the night, along with many of our male staff, spending more than 6 hours making and eating homemade pizzas.

June 2018

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November 2018
During the monsoon months the mission campus turns a lush green. Fields, grounds and trees come to life with the combination of heavy rain and hot sun acting like steroids for all things flora.
THE FARM

Our agricultural projects play a big part in why we are able to do so much on such a small budget. Not only do we grow much of our own food (we even make our own cooking oil), but we also are able to sell excess production to generate much needed funds which can then be channeled into other areas. This year almost half of our day to day expenses, including our agricultural department staff and workers salaries, were paid for by our agriculture department through the sale of various produce.

We are fortunate to have a huge amount of land (about 50 acres) in which we can grow crops. We grow a multitude of different things on this land but our main crops are wheat and paddy (rice). We are normally able to get two separate rice crops in each year and one crop of wheat. In addition to this, we grow a lot of mustard, dhal (lentils) and soybean. Our farm is managed by a great team and is a hive of activity every day.

WHEAT CROP
While heavy rain and even a hailstorm caused some damage, we still had a pretty good crop. Our older children helped out to tie ‘junas’ for the laborers. Junas are cords made out of the wheat plant itself which are used to tie bundles of cut stalks together before they are threshed to separate the chaff from the grain. There is quite an art to making them but our kids picked it up quickly and cheerfully helped out for a full week, even in spite of the hot summer weather. We are so proud of them.

April 2018

MUSTARD CROP
Every January our fields burst into an incredible yellow flower garden as our annual mustard (canola) crop comes to life. It becomes a favorite place for our kids to pose for photos - many locals even come to take selfies in the sea of yellow. Just a few short weeks later, the flowers die and the crop is harvested for the seeds which are then dried and crushed to make mustard seed oil. A typical crop will yield hundreds of millions of seeds and provide enough oil for all the Farm’s needs for a full year.

February 2019

HAVING A RICE TIME
Our biggest crop by far each year is our regular rice paddy crop. This year, we planted roughly 44 acres by hand; workers from our local village provided the labor for this task as they planted the seedlings in deep mud, ensuring water levels are maintained to the fields. Not only do we eat the yield of this crop every single day, we are also able to sell much of it to generate income for our organization. This year we were able to sell about 10.5 lakh rupees (approximately USD $15,000) worth of rice paddy to our local mill.

July 2018

SUMMER PADDY
As a separate mid-season crop, we planted 8.5 acres of the rice paddy this summer with the sole intention of selling it. The yield came off pretty well considering the strange weather we faced leading up to harvest; a large dump of rain at the end of the harvest in particular was a real concern. We were able to do some major overhauls to our tractors through the extra funds obtained by this crop, work that has been desperately needed. Thankfully the tractors are now fully serviced and ready for many more years of work.

June 2018
IN THE DAIRY
Our dairy cows have done a great job of providing us with milk this year. More than 20 new calves have joined the family and in a few months will be out grazing with the rest of the herd across the mission campus helping to keep the grass down while providing manure for our methane gas plant. We use all of the milk from our dairy in our kitchen. It goes in our morning porridge, chai tea throughout the day, for yogurts and also cottage cheese. It is the perfect thing for our children’s young, growing bodies.

July 2019

RESTOCKING THE TANK
While our fish do breed themselves, sometimes we need to give our tank family a little extra support. This year we put 25,000 little fry and fingerlings into our tank and soon enough they were ready for harvest.

Our aquaculture project is extremely low maintenance. Other than keeping the water levels up, we only have to feed the fish a few times each month, as they get the rest themselves from bugs and critters in the air.

July 2019

WHO GIVES A CARP
Our fishponds are teeming with fish, carp to be precise. While many turn up their noses at these boney, scaled beasts - our kids love them! Fishing trips were regular this year, any way they could catch them the children would; nets, rods, reels - some kids even got in the muddy waters and caught them by hand!

Most of the time the caught fish are battered and fried in our kitchen though on occasion they were served in curry. Yummy!

ALL YEAR ROUND

NEW ROTAVATOR
Through online donations we were able to purchase a new rotavator for our agricultural department. This strange looking apparatus is basically a super powerful soil tilling machine that cuts down field preparation time and cost dramatically. No sooner did the new machine arrive than we put it to work. It was amazing to see how this machine worked the fields compared to our old plows. We are so grateful to everyone who helped donate toward the fundraiser - come eat some of our rice with us!

October 2019

FRESH FRUITS & BERRIES
Across the mission, we have a huge variety of fruits: dozens of mango, lychee and guava trees make up the core of our orchard space but we also have lime, lemon, pear, chikoo, tamarind, star apple, custard apple, passion fruit, grapefruit, mulberries, jamoon and even pineapple growing!

The monsoon is the perfect time for planting and this year we made sure to put down plenty of young saplings with the promise of even more fruit in the future!
Green wheat fields contrast with the yellow of a ripe mustard crop. Our farm not only feeds us, it generates funds so we can make the dream of self-sustainability a reality.
OUR SCHOOL

The Maxton Strong School is home to about 700 students made up of both our mission kids and children from the local community. Our school is a diverse family of students who care for each other and work hard in unity to ensure that no one is left feeling alone.

Our new campus started back in 2013 and has seen consistent growth since then. Our dreams for our school are massive and work is well and truly underway to see them come to pass. We take pride in our reputation as being the best school in our area, something that we have worked hard to achieve.

CHESS CAMP
We were extremely fortunate to have Chess Champion Ben Elstner come and run a chess camp for our students. Ben provided chessboards, clocks and teaching tools along with over a week of lessons for our eager young Grandmasters. After classes were over, an Open Chess Tournament was held in our school with students from over a dozen schools in our local area coming to participate. Ben must have done something right considering students from our school won both first and second place!

November 2019

BOOK FAIR
With our new library opened this year there certainly has been a lot of emphasis on the importance and benefits of reading. We wanted to give our students an opportunity to get some books of their own so we arranged a huge book fair with some local bookstores. Shelves lined the hallways so that parents and children could browse the hundreds of titles on display. Reading books, activity books, puzzles and games were made available at highly discounted rates and the results were fantastic.

December 2019

SAFETY WORKSHOPS
We are grateful to the Banbasa Police Station for their support this year. Throughout the year our local police have encouraged our children not only to be safe on the road but also to teach others to be safe. Workshops were held several times this year to encourage the importance of obeying road/traffic laws and staying safe online. Students were given an opportunity to “teach forward” what they had learned through the creation of posters and craft ideas they could take home and share with their loved ones.

ALL YEAR ROUND

STUDENT BODY GROWTH
Over the last 6 years we have seen incredible growth in our student body. This year has been no different with over 100 new children joining our body. At the start of each new year, admissions open with a flurry as parents from across the local area come to enroll their children. We take the continued growth as a great indicator that our local community recognizes the dedication and hard work we put into the education and upbringing of the children in our care.

April 2018

NATIONAL PRIDE
Education goes far beyond the walls of a classroom, it is more than textbooks or examinations. It branches into so many elements of our lives - not just the things we do, but the way we think and the way we feel. At our school, we want our children to be proud of their nation - we want them to be patriots. This is why we put so much effort into celebrations for national events like Independence Day, Republic Day and Ghandi Jayanti. We give honor to these days to teach our children respect for our country.

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December 2019
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
Our Annual School Christmas Program is a pretty big deal for our students. Held normally at night, we typically have a huge tent, lights and chairs set up as the kids present their weeks of practice in a spectacle that has to be seen to be understood. Unfortunately, due to a government teacher training program, this year’s event was more low key and held in the daytime. But the joy of Christmas resounded in each song, each drama and each dance. We are so proud of the effort each child put in.

December 2018

CHILDREN’S DAY
On November 14th (the birthday of India’s First Prime Minister - Jawaharlal Nehru), Children’s Day is celebrated across India. It is a chance to break from the norm and have a little fun.

In our school a Games Day was organized for our extremely excited kids. Tug-of-war, a soccer tournament, badminton, kho-kho, board games, duck-duck-goose, volleyball, Ring a Ring o’ Rosie. It was an endless list of activities that made for a fun-packed day.

November 2019

NEW DESKS
With so many new students entering our school we had to work quickly to bend, weld, paint, glue and screw more than 80 desks together. Our workshop men did not disappoint and in record time the desks were in the school, ready to get to work. By making the desks ourselves we are able to save about 30% on the cost of each desk and have a much higher quality product than is available in our local market. Similar desks that we made nearly a decade ago in our workshop are still going strong.

April 2019

GIRLS’ SELF DEFENSE CLASSES
Avinash Kumar, our Physical Education Teacher, put special emphasis on Girls’ Self Defense this year and ran free classes not just for our students but also for students from 6 other schools in our area.

We sincerely hope these girls never get put in a position where they have to use their new skills, but we are glad they have them. Amazing work Avinash, let’s all do our part to keep these young ladies safe!

May 2018

GUITAR WORKSHOP
When Australian guitarist Lachlan was in town, we asked him to help run a workshop in our school for some eager young musicians. Students in our high school were given the chance to learn from the Master. Three to four classes each day kept him busy with eight guitars in the hands of new and eager strummers. It took a lot of work and patience (and tuning), but the kids loved every minute of it and (who knows?), Lachlan may just be creating the next Indian superstar!

April 2019

MAXTON STRONG SCHOOL
SAMARTHA SAXENA LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

After more than a year of planning, design, fundraising, construction, painting, wiring, decorating and cleaning -our new school library and computer lab, the Samartha Saxena Memorial Learning Resource Center was officially opened this year.

Under a blazing Indian sun, with hundreds of parents and students in attendance, with honored guests and longtime friends in town for the occasion, the ceremonial ribbon was cut, the doors were unsealed, and our beautiful new space was officially open. There were songs and dances, speeches and prayers, and a celebration worthy of the effort that brought this project to fruition.

The new building has enough space for more than 12,000 books, two large reading rooms, an online research section and a 45 system computer lab. As the pictures show, it is beautifully constructed with a large open design, gorgeous Indian Rosewood furniture and a warmth that only comes from being constructed out of pure love.

This project would not have been possible without the amazing support of the Samartha Saxena Foundation and Century Link India. Maxton Strong School and The Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission will forever be grateful for their support.
The opening ceremony of our new library, the Samartha Saxena Memorial Learning Resource Center, was held in March of this year. We are so excited for the generations of children whose education will be improved by this new addition to our school.
The playground is a great place to stretch your legs, play a game of tag, run around the cricket pitch or ride a bike! There is so much room to move! Every year we add a little more play to our play areas, expanding on what we have time and time again.
HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED...

VOLUNTEER | www.indianorphanage.com/volunteer

Traveling to India? Looking for a way to connect with the world? Though we receive far more applications than we can ever accept, we encourage you to visit our website and reach out to us. If the timing and fit feel right, we look forward to meeting you soon.

FUNDRAISE | www.globalgiving.org/projects/indianorphanage

There are always projects going on at the Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission. Whether you’d like to help gather supporters to achieve a big idea like our upcoming kindergarten, or perhaps you’d like a smaller more personal connection, let us know. The truth is: we can’t do it without you!

DONATE | www.globalgiving.org/projects/indianorphanage

While we strive for as much self-sufficiency as possible, it takes a large family of supporters to keep the Mission running. Consider sponsoring us on a monthly basis at a level that feels comfortable. Or make a one-time donation to honor someone you love. We’d love to hear from you.

SUBSCRIBE | www.indianorphanage.com/subscribe

We produce a newsletter each week that is full of beautiful photography and updates from the field. If you’ve ever wondered what it takes to run an organization like ours, sign up and take a look. Our “Prayer Letter” leaves here every Saturday evening and will be a bright spot in your week.

SPONSOR | www.globalgiving.org/projects/indianorphanage

We are so fortunate to have an amazing group of people sponsoring our children. We are happy to report that every single child on our mission has a sponsor. That said, we are always looking for people who would be happy to sponsor a monthly meal, regular maintenance, school supplies or tuition fees for our older students.